

March 31, 1993

The Honorable Craig A. Tarpoff
Alderman, City of Granite City
City Hall
Granite City, IL 62040


Dear Alderman ^{CRAIG} Tarpoff:

We are in receipt of your letter of March 26, 1993, concerning the proposed remedial action scheduled to begin sometime in April. We share your concerns that the citizens of Granite City not be exposed to potentially dangerous levels of lead dust during an operation ostensibly undertaken to protect the public health. The proposed monitoring plan, while useful, does leave something to be desired in terms of precision (visual inspection) and timeliness (high volume in sampling). It would seem prudent to add or substitute a methodology that provides real-time measurement of dust levels that are not subject to individual interpretation or misjudgment. Since there is no equipment available to measure real-time lead levels, the best approach is to estimate airborne lead by measuring airborne dust using a real-time dust monitor. By knowing the lead concentration of the soil and pre-selecting a level of lead to provide adequate safety to residents and/or workers, the acceptable level of dust in the air can be calculated using a relatively simple approach.

This monitoring would seem a prudent approach given the hazards of lead and the concern that USEPA has voiced over the health of the residents. We will contact USEPA and indicate the desirability of such monitoring. We will offer to assist USEPA in whatever way we can although we would not like to intrude on the cleanup by independent monitoring unless no other way can be found to address the citizen concerns.

Thank you for contacting us with your concerns. Please feel free to call if questions remain or additional information is required.

Sincerely,


Thomas F. Long
Senior Toxicologist
Toxicology Section

cc: Brad Bradley, USEPA
Dave Webb, IDPH-Edwardsville
Virginia Wood, IEPA
Congressman Jerry Costello
Director's Office